

The Great Lakes Entomologist

Volume 47
Numbers 1 & 2 - Spring/Summer 2014 *Numbers*
1 & 2 - Spring/Summer 2014

Article 14

April 2014

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Recommended Citation

Barringer, Lawrence E. and Ciafre, Claire M. 2014. "New Eastern Record of *Ptosima Walshii* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)," *The Great Lakes Entomologist*, vol 47 (1)
Available at: <https://scholar.valpo.edu/tgle/vol47/iss1/14>

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New Eastern Record of *Ptosima walshii* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae)

Lawrence E. Barringer¹, Claire M. Ciafré²

Abstract

Ptosima walshii LeConte (Coleoptera: Buprestidae) is reported for the first time in Pennsylvania, being the eastern-most record of the species. Four specimens were captured in Lindgren funnel traps in Bedford and Fulton counties during invasive wood-destroying beetle surveys.

The genus *Ptosima* Dejean contains 13 species worldwide, of which 10 are extant. Of these, 3 are from the Oriental region and 3 are from the Palearctic region. The remaining 4 species are of the Nearctic region (Bellamy 2013). Two of these are found in the south-central region of the United States: *Ptosima idolynae* Frost and *Ptosima laeta* Waterhouse. *Ptosima gibbicollis* Say has a larger distribution reaching from the Atlantic east coast and west into Texas and Kansas. *Ptosima walshii* LeConte has been documented to have a Midwest United States distribution from Kansas east to Ohio and south to Texas. The host plant for this species, *Quercus macrocarpa* Michx. (Nelson et al. 2008, Paiero et al. 2012), has a much larger range covering the eastern half of the United States, excepting the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, and extends as far west as Wyoming and New Mexico (USDA and NRCS 2013).

Four specimens of *P. walshii* were taken during annual invasive beetle surveys conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA). These are the first known vouchered records of this species from the state of Pennsylvania. All four specimens were collected individually, each with a different lure type, using 12-unit Lindgren funnel placed by Nathan Delp of PDA. Two specimens were taken 3 May 2013 in Bedford County using *Trypodendron lineatum* lure (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae) (Contech Enterprises, Victoria, BC) and ethanol (Science Lab, Houston, TX) respectively. An additional specimen was taken at the same site on 16 May 2013 using *Quercivore* lure (Coleoptera: Platypodidae) (Contech Enterprises). The final specimen was collected in adjacent Fulton county on 14 June 2013 using *Pityophthorus* lure (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae) (Contech Enterprises).

Interestingly, none of the lures are specific to buprestids; most were intended for other families of beetles. This suggests that the trap shape resulted in the captures rather than chemical attraction, though the ethanol lure has been used as a generalist attractant of wood-boring beetles because it mimics the symptoms of a damaged or stressed tree.

Ptosima walshii is easily distinguished from other *Ptosima* species by its distinctive markings; the variable elytral patterns of *P. walshii* are both smaller and more broken-up when compared with other United States members (Nelson et al. 2008). All four Pennsylvania specimens of *P. walshii* are housed in the PDA collection [PADA] (Evenhuis 2012).

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Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank Sven-Erik Spichiger of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for his confirmation of the identifications, release of the data for this manuscript, and for his review. We would also like to extend our gratitude to those who have provided feedback for this manuscript.

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